

REVISED

**BOROUGH OF RAMSEY**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 28, 2007**

Mayor Botta called the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to order. Council President led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor read the Open Public Meetings Law Notice. Members of the Cub Scouts were in attendance.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Botta, Councilmembers Dillon, Heller, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozeh, Borough Attorney Peter Scandariato, Borough Administrator Nicholas Saros, and Borough Clerk Meredith Bendian.

Absent: None

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Nalbandian, seconded by Dillon, to approve the minutes of January 24, 2007, and February 14, 2007, as submitted. Carried.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

Motion by Heller, seconded by Vozeh, to receive and file the following Communications. Carried.

1. Charlotte Vandervalk, Assemblywoman, NJ General Assembly, 220 Kinderkamack Road, Westwood, NJ 07675  
letter dated February 22, 2007, advising the Borough that they will be receiving \$15,785.91 from the 2007 distribution of the Clean Community funds.
2. Senator Gerald Cardinale, NJ Senate, 350 Madison Avenue, Cresskill, NJ 07626  
letter dated February 22, 2007, confirming the \$15,785.91 from the Fiscal Year 2007 Clean Communities grant.
3. Robert M. Genetelli, Superintendent, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, NJ 07463  
letter dated February 27, 2007, schedule for conducting flow meter calibration and verification.

IV. APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Botta made the following appointments:

Kevin Falk, Ramsey Rescue Squad Riding Member  
Kevin Hymans, Ramsey Volunteer Fire Department

Council President Nalbandian and Councilman Vozech joined the Mayor in presenting certificates to the Don Bosco Prep High School Varsity Football team captains. Mayor congratulated the team on a great season, 12 - 0, and their state championship for the second year in a row. Mayor also welcomed the Cross Country Team and congratulated them on their successful year.

Councilwoman Dillon and Council President Nalbandian joined the Mayor in presenting a certificate to Christina Lee for her award winning International Peace Poster contest, sponsored by Lions International. Lion Art Keys and Ms. Halloway, Smith School Art Teacher, were also in attendance. Out of 350,000 posters, Christina's poster came in the top 24. Mr. Keys explained that Christina won in the district, state, and went on to international competition and a lot of credit goes to the Lee family for encouraging their daughter to use the talent she has. The poster will be distributed worldwide. Mr. Keys also presented a check from the Lions Club for \$500 to Christina. Ms. Halloway thanked the Mayor and Council for recognizing this young girl's achievement. Mr. Keys stated that Christina and her family will be going to the United Nations next month.

Mayor administered the oath of office to Nicholas Agnoli as a member of the O.E.M.

V. CONSENT RESOLUTION  
Resolution by Vozech, seconded by Siemsen

BE IT RESOLVED that the following resolutions herewith listed having been considered by the governing body of the Borough of Ramsey be and are hereby passed and approved:

- a. Resolution: Payment of vouchers
- b. Resolution: Designating the month of March "Women's History Month"
- c. Resolution: Appointing Kevin Falk to the Ramsey Rescue Squad as a Riding Member.
- d. Resolution: Appointing Kevin Hymans to the Ramsey Volunteer Fire Department.
- e. Resolution: Awarding a contract to English Paving Co. for resurfacing of streets through the Northwest Bergen Cooperative Pricing Program.
- f. Resolution: Appointing Larry Trafficante as part-time electrical inspector.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following applications and/or recommendations hereby be approved:

- A. SPECIAL PERMITS:  
Ramsey High School Band and Guard Parents are requesting permission to

sell hoagies door to door for their annual fundraiser on Saturday, March 3, 2007 – Saturday, March 17, 2007.

B. RAFFLE REQUESTS:

St. Paul's Interparochial School is requesting permission to hold an on premise merchandise raffle on Tuesday, April 3, 2007 between the hours of 8:00 pm and 9:00 pm.

AYES: Dillon, Jones, Heller, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozech    NAYS: None    ABSENT: None

VI. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION -Councilman Bruce Vozech

Congratulations to Christina Lee for an outstanding job on the poster.

Also, congratulations to the Don Bosco teams. I welcome the new volunteers.

The budget process is underway and we will be making our presentation to the Mayor and Council in the near future. My thanks to the DPW for their work during the recent snowstorms. They do an outstanding job.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Council President Arthur M. Nalbandian

I would echo Councilman Vozech's comments. My congratulations to Christina Lee and the Don Bosco teams for their successful sports programs. They deserve a lot of credit. I would also like to thank and congratulate our new volunteers. The Municipal Drug Alliance is sponsoring an internet safety seminar for parents on March 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the high school auditorium. Members of the Bergen County Prosecutor's office will be on hand and it is an event that you should not miss, especially if you are a parent. I too would like to thank and congratulate the DPW for doing such a great job. I drove to Somerset County on the day of the storm, and the roads in Ramsey were cleaner than anywhere else.

C. BUILDING & ZONING – Councilman Andrew Siemsen

Congratulations to Christina Lee for her poster. Congratulations also to the Don Bosco teams for their achievements and my thanks to the new appointees. We appreciate their spirit of volunteerism.

D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Jeffrey C. Heller

My thanks to the Cub Scouts who were here earlier tonight, offering their assistance in conducting the meeting. I would like to thank the DPW for keeping the streets safe and clean during the recent snowstorms. They did an excellent job. I would also like to recognize Christina Lee for her achievement and my thanks to the new volunteers.

The Pool Commission met last night and the membership rates will be going up a little this year. Rates have not increased in 3 years. Pool Director Joe Collins has formed a new swim league and a parents group has been formed to support the team and help out with coaching. The pool continues to be a great value and an asset to the community.

E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilman William Jones

The Centennial of Ramsey will be in 2008 and numerous events are in the planning stage for next year. We need to get the word out that the programs are underway. I would like to thank the new volunteers and congratulate Christina Lee for her poster. It is truly remarkable. My congratulations to the Don Bosco teams. My thanks to the Cub Scouts.

F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilwoman Deirdre Dillon  
Congratulations to Christina Lee for her poster. My thanks to the new volunteers and congratulations to the Don Bosco teams. I heard from many people that our streets are the cleanest in the area and I would like to thank the DPW.

G. MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. BOTTA

Again, my thanks to the Don Bosco teams for coming in and to Christina Lee for a spectacular poster which really shows her dedication as well as the Smith School program which encourages our young people. Congratulations to the new appointees. Tonight, we are awarding the joint bid for paving and that amount is \$2.3 million. That is combined with 13 towns in Northwest Bergen County. By doing a joint bid, we save a lot of money. This is shared services at work. We are the lead agency and we are saving money for our taxpayers. March 26 will be Family Night in Ramsey; no homework, no meetings, and no games or practices. This is a night where there is nothing planned, in order to spend time with families.

H. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq. No comments.

I. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Nicholas C. Saros No comments.

J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian No comments.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

VIII. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

5-2007 Ordinance amending Chapter II Administration, and more specifically Borough Clerk, Powers and Duties

6-2007 Ordinance amending Chapter XIV entitled Fire Prevention and Protection (Being re-introduced)

7-2007 Ordinance amending Chapter XXXIV entitled Off Street Parking

Ord. 5-2007 Borough Clerk, Powers and Duties  
Resolution by Vozeh, seconded by Heller

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER II “ADMINISTRATION” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND MORE SPECIFICALLY SECTION 2-8 “BOROUGH CLERK” SUBSECTION 2-8.4 “POWERS AND DUTIES” having been brought up for public hearing and all persons interested having been given an opportunity to be heard, pass final reading by title, and that said ordinance be adopted as an ordinance of the Borough of Ramsey, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be, and she hereby is, directed to cause a copy of the title of said ordinance to be published in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law, together with a notice of the date of introduction and adoption of said ordinance.

Councilman Vozeh stated that this ordinance would expand the powers and duties of the Borough Clerk, in response to citizens' needs for raffle licenses. This ordinance would help alleviate some of the time constraints involved in the approval process.

Not seeing anyone who wished to speak, Mayor closed the public hearing for ord. 5-2007.

AYES: Dillon, Heller, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozeh    NAYS: None    ABSENT: None

Ord. 6-2007 Amendment to Fire Prevention

Borough Attorney stated that Ord. 6-2007 was going to be amended to reflect State revisions and reintroduced as a new ordinance, since it has to be republished and can then be adopted on March 14, 2007.

Ord. 7-2007 Parking Amendment

Resolution by Siemsen, seconded by Dillon

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER XXXIV "ZONING" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND MORE SPECIFICALLY SECTION 34-6 "PARKING AND LOADING" SUBSECTION 34-6.1 "OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS" AND SECTION 34-19 "R-4 MULTI FAMILY DISTRICT" SUBSECTION 34-19.2 "REQUIRED CONDITIONS" having been brought up for public hearing and all persons interested having been given an opportunity to be heard, pass final reading by title, and that said ordinance be adopted as an ordinance of the Borough of Ramsey, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be, and she hereby is, directed to cause a copy of the title of said ordinance to be published in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law, together with a notice of the date of introduction and adoption of said ordinance.

Not seeing anyone who wished to speak, Mayor closed the public hearing for ord. 7-2007.

Councilman Siemsen stated that this ordinance corrects some recently discovered inconsistencies with the number of parking spaces per bank teller window and an inconsistency between rear yard setbacks of either accessory buildings or off-street parking. Ord. 7-2007 will close the loopholes.

AYES: Dillon, Heller, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozeh    NAYS: None    ABSENT: None

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

6A-2007 Amendment to Fire Prevention  
Resolution by Nalbandian, seconded by Jones

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND MORE SPECIFICALLY CHAPTER XIV THEREOF ENTITLED FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION pass the first reading by title, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage and adoption at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2007, at 8:45 p.m. prevailing time or as soon after as the matter can be reached, at the Municipal Building in said Borough, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be, and she hereby is, instructed to publish in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law a copy of said ordinance, together with notice of introduction thereof and notice when the same will be considered for final passage and adoption.

AYES: Dillon, Heller, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozeh NAYS: None ABSENT: None

8-2007 Ordinance amending Chapter XXXIV entitled Highway Commercial District  
Resolution by Siemsen, seconded by Jones

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XXXIV OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND MORE SPECIFICALLY SECTION 34-39 ENTITLED B-3 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT pass the first reading by title, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage and adoption at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2007, at 8:45 p.m. prevailing time or as soon after as the matter can be reached, at the Municipal Building in said Borough, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be, and she hereby is, instructed to publish in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law a copy of said ordinance, together with notice of introduction thereof and notice when the same will be considered for final passage and adoption.

Councilman Siemsen stated that this is an amendment to the section of the ordinance regarding billboards as recommended by Zoning Officer Rich Mammone and Betsey McKenzie, the Borough Planner as part of the re-examination of the Master Plan of 2006.

AYES: Dillon, Heller, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozeh NAYS: None ABSENT: None

9-2007      Improvements to the Senior Citizens Building at Finch Park  
Resolution by Heller, seconded by Dillon

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE RECONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SENIOR CITIZENS BUILDING LOCATED AT FINCH PARK IN THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$11,000.00 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF pass the first reading by title, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage and adoption at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2007, at 8:45 p.m. prevailing time or as soon after as the matter can be reached, at the Municipal Building in said Borough, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be, and she hereby is, instructed to publish in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law a copy of said ordinance, together with notice of introduction thereof and notice when the same will be considered for final passage and adoption.

Councilman Heller stated that the improvements will involve improving the kitchen facility.

AYES: Dillon, Heller, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozeh    NAYS: None    ABSENT: None

X.      UNFINISHED BUSINESS    None

XI.     NEW BUSINESS    None

XII.    ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Heller, seconded by Jones, to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

Meredith Bendian  
Borough Clerk